## (19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



### 

(43) International Publication Date 23 October 2003 (23.10.2003)

**PCT** 

# (10) International Publication Number WO 03/086903 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification7: B65D 85/10, 5/42
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/EP03/50111
- (22) International Filing Date: 17 April 2003 (17.04.2003)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: BO2002A000203

17 April 2002 (17.04.2002) IT

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): G.D SOCIETÀ PER AZIONI [IT/IT]; Via Battindarno, 91, I-40133 BOLOGNA (IT).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): PETRUCCI, Luca [IT/IT]; Via Tiraboschi, 27, I-41013 CASTELFRANCO EMILIA (IT). DRAGHETTI, Fiorenzo [IT/IT]; Via San Donino, 506, Frazione Villafontana, I-40059 MEDICINA (IT).
- (74) Agents: JORIO, Paolo et al.; STUDIO TORTA S.r.l., Via Viotti, 9, I-10121 TORINO (IT).

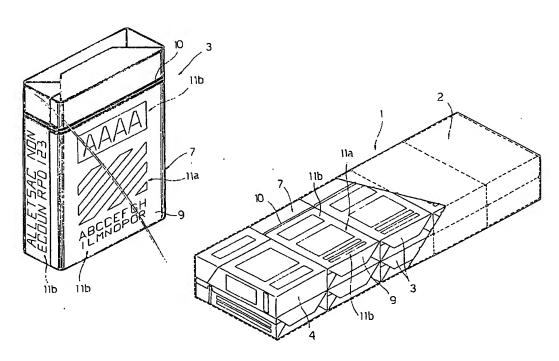
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

#### Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CONTAINER OF CIGARETTES



(57) Abstract: A container (1) of cigarettes, having an outer package (2) housing a reusable box (4), and a number of packets (3) of cigarettes arranged, with the box (4), in a given order and which act as a refill for the box (4).





A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B65D85/10 B65D5/42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

### B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  $IPC\ 7\ B65D$ 

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, PAJ, EPO-Internal

| C. DOCUM   | ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT  |                      |
|------------|---|----------------------|
| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages      | Relevant to daim No. |
| A          | DE 44 40 555 A (OEMKES BETTINA)<br>14 June 1995 (1995-06-14)<br>the whole document      | 1-9                  |
| A          | EP 0 582 488 A (PHILIP MORRIS) 9 February 1994 (1994-02-09) abstract; claim 32; figures | 1-9                  |
| Α          | US 5 669 493 A (FOCKE HEINZ ET AL) 23 September 1997 (1997-09-23) abstract; figures     | 1                    |
| А          | US 2 242 914 A (KNOX WALTER F) 20 May 1941 (1941-05-20) abstract; figures               | 1,11                 |
|            | -/  |                      |

| X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.   | Patent family members are listed in annex.   |  |
|--|--|--|
| Special categories of cited documents:  "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filling date  "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | inling the general state of the art which is not be of particular relevance or priority date and not in conflict with the application but clied to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention with the application but clied to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention cannot be considered invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone or into each of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such document is combined with one or more other such document is such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. |  |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search  27 August 2003  | Date of mailing of the international search report  04/09/2003   |  |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2  NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016   | Authorized officer SERRANO GALARRAGA, J  |  |



Application No
PCT/EP 03/50111

|            | tion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT  | <u></u>               |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Category * | Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| A          | FR 2 642 405 A (ROSENTHAL CLAUDE) 3 August 1990 (1990-08-03) abstract; figures     | 1,7,10                |
| A          | US 6 244 017 B1 (FOCKE HEINZ ET AL) 12 June 2001 (2001-06-12) abstract; figures    | 1,12,13               |
| A          | US 3 721 335 A (GRANT C)<br>20 March 1973 (1973-03-20)<br>abstract; figures        | 1,12                  |
| Α          | EP 0 346 025 A (PHILIP MORRIS) 13 December 1989 (1989-12-13) abstract; figures     | 1,12                  |
|            |  |                       |
|            |  |                       |
|            |  |                       |
|            |  |                       |
|            | ·  |                       |
|            |  |                       |
|            |  |                       |
|            |  |                       |
|            |  |                       |
|            |  |                       |



| Patent document cited in search report |    | Publication<br>date | Patent family member(s)                            |   | Publication date   |
|--|----|---------------------|--|---|--|
| DE 4440555                             | Α  | 14-06-1995          | DE<br>DE   | 9318758 U1<br>4440555 A1  | 10-02-1994<br>14-06-1995   |
| EP 0582488                             | A  | 09-02-1994          | US<br>AT<br>DE<br>DE<br>DK<br>EP<br>ES<br>GR<br>JP | 5301805 A<br>148866 T<br>69308084 D1<br>69308084 T2<br>582488 T3<br>0582488 A1<br>2097984 T3<br>3022934 T3<br>6098748 A | 12-04-1994<br>15-02-1997<br>27-03-1997<br>17-07-1997<br>26-05-1997<br>09-02-1994<br>16-04-1997<br>30-06-1997<br>12-04-1994 |
| US 5669493                             | A  | 23-09-1997          | DE<br>BR<br>CN<br>DE<br>EP<br>JP                   | 4418821 A1<br>9502608 A<br>1117462 A ,B<br>59501248 D1<br>0685409 A1<br>8058778 A                                       | 07-12-1995<br>02-01-1996<br>28-02-1996<br>19-02-1998<br>06-12-1995<br>05-03-1996   |
| US 2242914                             | A  | 20-05-1941          | NONE   |   |  |
| FR 2642405                             | Α  | 03-08-1990          | FR   | 2642405 A1  | 03-08-1990   |
| US 6244017                             | B1 | 12-06-2001          | DE<br>BR<br>CN<br>EP<br>JP                         | 19743120 A1<br>9803951 A<br>1212942 A ,B<br>0905053 A2<br>11171272 A  | 01-04-1999<br>14-12-1999<br>07-04-1999<br>31-03-1999<br>29-06-1999   |
| US 3721335                             | Α  | 20-03-1973          | NONE   |   |  |
| EP 0346025                             | A  | 13-12-1989          | US<br>DE<br>DE<br>EP<br>JP<br>JP                   | 4944394 A<br>68909844 D1<br>68909844 T2<br>0346025 A1<br>2057549 A<br>2684416 B2  | 31-07-1990<br>18-11-1993<br>05-05-1994<br>13-12-1989<br>27-02-1990<br>03-12-1997   |